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Muscle Shoals Baptist Association

v. 1. 1850

v. 2. 1854

v. 3. 1855

v. 4. 1858

v. 5. 1859

v. 6. 1861

v. 7. 1867

v. 8. 1871

v. 9. 1885

v. 10. 1887

v. 11. 1888

v. 12. 1891

v. 13. 1892

v. 14. 1893

v. 15. 1895

v. 16. 1896

v. 17. 1897

v. 18. 1898

v. 19. 1899

v. 20. 1900



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Muscle Shoals Baptist Association

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MINUTES

OF THE

SEVENTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Muscle Shoals Baptist Association

HELD WITH

Enon Baptist Church, Lawrence County, Ala.,

Sept. 29, 30, and Oct. 1, 2, 1898.

OFFICERS

ELD. W. T. COBBS, MODERATORFalkville, Ala.
ELD. JOS. SHACKELFORD, CLERK.....Danville, Ala.
W. D. IRWIN, TREASURERMoulton, Ala.

Executive Board, Moulton, Ala.

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| A. W. BAILEY, | JOHN N. JACKSON, | J. M. SHOEMAKER, |
| J. N. BRAGG, | H. B. IRWIN, | J. M. SANDLIN, |
| WM. EAST, | W. D. IRWIN, | J. C. TIDWELL, |
| DR. J. M. KITCHENS, | J. G. ORR, | J. A. WALKER, |
| | JORDAN WHITE. | |

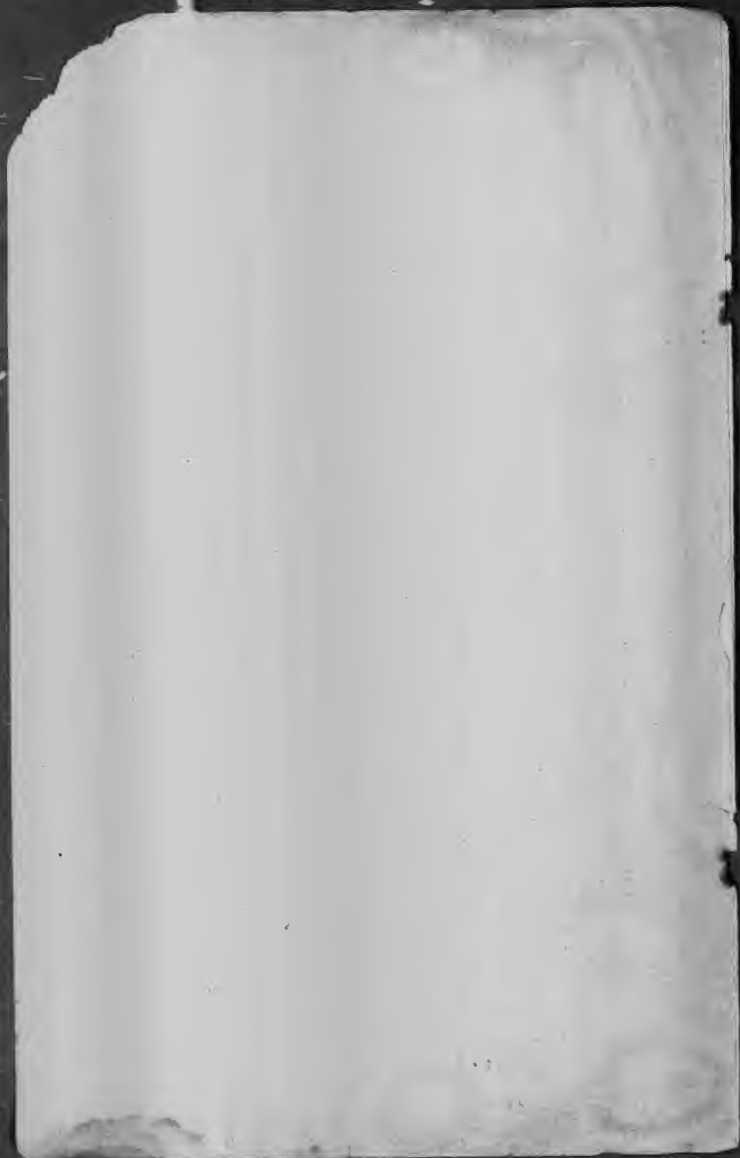
Board of Ministerial Education.

J. C. HARDWICK, J. M. KITCHENS, BYRD GIBSON, J. G. ORR,
JOSEPH SANDLIN, JOSEPHUS SHACKELFORD, J. T. WALLACE.

COLUMBUS, GEORGIA:

THOS. GILBERT, PRINTER AND MANUFACTURING STATIONER.

1898.



MINUTES

The delegates from the churches composing the Seventy-ninth Annual Session of the MUSCLE SHOALS ASSOCIATION OF BAPTISTS, convened with the Enon Baptist Church, Lawrence county, Alabama, on Thursday, September 29, 1898, at 11 o'clock A. M.

Eld. A. W. Briscoe preached the Introductory Sermon; text, 2 Cor. iv. 7: "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us." It was a good sermon, and well received by the brethren.

After the sermon, the congregation was dismissed for one hour, for refreshments. Prayer by Bro. W. T. Cobbs.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association met at the appointed time. Eld. J. I. Stockton conducted the devotional exercises, after which the former Moderator, Eld. R. T. Wear, called the Association to order. Eld. Jos. Shackelford, the former Clerk, took his place at the Clerk's table. Bros. J. C. Tidwell, Marion Briscoe, and Vera Shoemaker, were appointed Reading Clerks.

The Moderator then called for the letters from the churches. The following churches sent letters, which were read, and the names of the delegates enrolled:

Bethel—F. M. Reeves.

Bethany—T. W. Owen, A. M. Crisler.

Blue Spring—Letter—no delegate.

Cave Spring—James Ratliffe.

Central, New Decatur—R. M. Stickler, O. F. Wright.

Centre Grove—Letter—no delegate.

Cherry Hill—Letter—no delegate.

Danville—Jos. Shackelford, E. D. Stephenson, Marion Briscoe.

Decatur, First—Letter sent after Association—no delegate.

Enon—J. T. Wallace, F. N. McMillan, J. H. Sullivan.

Friendship—Jas. Walker, J. H. Norwood.

Falkville—W. T. Cobbs, T. L. Simpson, J. C. Tidwell.

Gum Spring (L)—W. H. Muston, A. R. Holbrooks.

Gum Spring (M)—Wm. Roan, D. G. Roan.

Harmony—W. S. Howell, John S. Howell.

Hartselle—J. C. Orr, J. D. McCanahan, E. P. McCanahan.

Hillsboro—A. W. Bailey.

Hopewell—J. H. Hembree, J. J. Sandlin, F. H. Orr.

Darlington—Letter—no delegate.

Lebanon—W. H. Junkins, H. C. Barkley.

Macedonia (F)—J. M. Chenault, T. N. Vinson.

Macedonia (M)—W. B. Brothers, R. L. McCulloch, J. Frederick.

Moulton—Vera Shoemaker, Ed Spain.

Mt. Zion (L)—J. L. Richey, Felix Campbell, B. M. Vines.

Mt. Nebo (M)—T. F. Witt.

Mt. Nebo (F)—Wm. East, G. W. Hargett.

Mt. Hope—E. J. Barksdale, A. C. Messer, J. S. Gibson.

Mt. Pisgah—G. H. Hughes, R. B. Day.

New Hope—J. W. Horton.

New Prospect—M. A. Masterson, Jonathan Sandlin.

New Friendship—W. E. Wright, D. K. Kirbow.

New Centre—J. N. Holloway.

New Decatur—Frank Utter.

Pleasant Grove—J. J. Churchwell, J. P. Pearson, Rash Stockton.

Pleasant Hill (L)—R. M. Atkins, W. A. Murray, W. S. Jones.

Pleasant Hill (M)—J. Gunn, George Russell, Taylor Roger.

Russellville—Peter Clay, J. O. A. Pace, J. M. Orman.

Rocky Creek—J. C. Allison, J. M. Chiles, J. T. Woodard.

Somerville—T. H. Johnson.

Salem—E. T. Weathernox, T. P. Key.

Shady Grove—J. W. Livingston, J. S. Roper, J. S. Howell.

Town Creek—R. T. Wear, R. L. Quinn, J. M. Armour.

Trinity—J. I. Stockton, J. W. Bass, T. W. Williams.

Okolona—Van Hall, Louis Stubbs.

Etha—J. A. Perkins, W. G. Holmes.

Shoal Creek—J. L. Wright.

There being no other letters presented, the Moderator announced that the Association would proceed to the election of its officers.

Bros. H. B. Irwin and Peter Clay were appointed tellers to hold the election.

There were some brethren present who were delegates from churches, but the letters had not come in. On motion, by unanimous consent, they were allowed to take part in the organization of the Association.

During the counting of the vote, the brethren engaged in singing.

The tellers announced that Eld. W. T. Cobbs was elected Moderator, and Eld. JOSEPHUS SHACKELFORD Clerk.

The Moderator-elect returned his thanks for the honor conferred, and asked the brethren to assist him in his duties. The Clerk also returned thanks for the continued manifestation of confidence the brethren had in him, and made some explanation about the minutes sent out to the churches, and requested all clerks or pastors of churches to notify him when they failed to get their minutes.

On motion of Eld. J. Gunn, the Order of Business as printed in the minutes of last year, was adopted as the Order of Business for this session.

Petitionary Letters.

On a call for petitionary letters, one was presented from Bellview Baptist Church, Lawrence county.

On motion, the church was received, and the hand of fellowship was extended by the Moderator to the delegates, and their names enrolled as follows: W. W. Roger and J. P. Wade.

Correspondents.

Correspondents were called for from other bodies None appeared.
Visiting brethren were invited to seats.

Committees.

The Moderator appointed the following Committees:

On Devotional Exercises—Pastor and deacons of Enon Church, and
Bros. J. C. Orr and R. B. Day.

State of Religion—J. O. A. Pace, Willie Howell, F. M. Reeves.

Deceased Ministers—R. T. Wear, J. J. Churchwell, Jos. Pearson.

Finance Committee—H. B. Irwin, J. C. Tidwell, Wm. East.

On motion, the Association adjourned until 9 o'clock A. M. Friday.
Prayer by Eld. R. L. Quinn.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

FRIDAY, September 30, 1898.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. The devotional exercises were conducted by Eld. J. O. A. Pace.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved, except the calling of the roll, which was deferred until the afternoon session.

Miscellaneous Business.

On motion of Eld. J. I. Stockton, the hour of 10 to 11 A. M. was made a special hour for the consideration of the interest of the Ministerial Institute Board.

Query.

Eld. J. Gunn offered the following query: "Is it right for a church to grant a letter in full fellowship to an applicant, when the want of fellowship is the cause of the application?"

On motion of Eld. J. Shackelford, it was answered, "It is not."

Bro. Wm. East presented the following query: "What charge ought to be preferred against a member of a church who leaves his church to join another, without a letter, saying that he would not have a letter from his church, and would not take it if it were offered to him? And what charge should be preferred against a minister of the gospel who would urge such action upon the part of a member? And what course should a church pursue towards such a member and such a preacher?"

After some discussion, on motion of Eld. J. I. Stockton, a Committee of three was appointed to prepare an answer to the queries, and report the same to the Association. The Committee consisted of Bros. J. I. Stockton, Peter Clay, and J. C. Orr.

Delayed Letters.

Letters were read during the morning from the following churches and the names of the delegates enrolled: New Friendship, New Centre, Shoal Creek, Pleasant Hill, Hillsboro, Hopewell, Salem, New Decatur (First), Mt. Nebo (M), Bethany.

Committees.

The Moderator announced the following

Committee on Documents—J. D. McClanahan, James Ratliffe, W. W. Orr.

And Bro. J. Gunn, to fill the vacancy on Committee on Home Missions.

The School at Danville.

The report of the Board of Trustees of the Danville School, was read by the Clerk as follows :

The Board of Trustees of the North Alabama Baptist Collegiate Institute and Normal School, at Danville, Ala., offer this their Sixth Annual Report to the Muscle Shoals Association: The school closed its fifth session in May last, with a total enrollment of 118 pupils. We had five graduates in the English course at the last commencement.

The Trustees elected as President of the school Rev. Jos. Shackelford, with the authority to select his own assistants. The school is now in progress under his charge, with Miss Emma Shackelford as Principal of the Primary and Preparatory Departments, and Miss Susie Shackelford teacher of music. Other teachers will be employed as the needs of the school may demand.

The session opened on the 5th inst. We have enrolled, up to this date, 52 pupils, and the prospect is that the number will be materially increased by the first of November. Our patronage from a distance is not as good as it was last session at this time. We can only attribute this to the failure on the part of Baptists to appreciate their obligation and duty to sustain their own institutions of learning by giving them their patronage. Baptists do not patronize our school. We offer as good facilities for imparting instruction as any school within the bounds of your Association; we except none. Our teachers are as competent, our prices are exceedingly moderate, and we have as healthy locality as any, where there is as good a school. We propose to give thorough instruction. Ours is a Christian school. If Baptists do not send us their children, can we expect those not Baptists to patronize the school? The President of the school offers one scholarship to the Association, the pupil to be selected by the Executive Board of the Association. This scholarship gives free tuition for the present session to one pupil. We trust that the Executive Board will select some needy young lady or young man who will avail herself or himself of this generous offer.

During the past session we had five young ministers attending the school. Two of them were beneficiaries of your Association. One of the primary objects of this school is to educate young ministers. Young men who have the ministry in view, can prepare themselves here, either to enter Howard College, in the junior class, or the Seminary, at Louisville, Ky. They can do this at a much less expense, compared to what they would have to pay if this preparation was made at East Lake.

We respectfully notify you that the term of the following Trustees expires at this session of your body, viz: W. H. Simpson, J. C. Tidwell and G. C. Hardwick. Their places will have to be filled, either by re-election or the appointment of others. Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPHUS SHACKELFORD, President.

T. L. BAKER, Secretary.

On motion to adopt, the School matter was discussed by Bros. J. Shackelford, E. D. Stephenson, A. W. Briscoe and William East. The report was then adopted as above.

On motion, Bros. M. Briscoe, R. L. Quinn and G. W. Harget were

appointed a committee to suggest the names of the Trustees to be appointed.

A letter was presented from a new church, Moulton Heights Baptist Church, asking for admittance into this body. On motion, the church was received and the hand of fellowship extended by the Moderator to the delegate and his name enrolled as follows: C. C. Hall.

Report of Executive Board.

Bro. H. B. Irwin, President of the Executive Board, read the report of the Board, which was adopted, as follows:

DEAR BRETHREN: The first meeting of your Board was held at Moulton on October 14, 1897. Members present: Bros. J. G. Orr, J. M. Kitchens, Jourdan White, J. M. Shoemaker, H. B. Irwin, W. D. Irwin, J. N. Bragg, J. A. Walker and J. M. Sandlin. Bros. Jos. Shackelford and J. W. Sandlin were present with us at this meeting.

On motion, Bro. H. B. Irwin was elected President of the Board, and J. M. Sandlin, Secretary. It having come to the notice of the Board that the Association had overlooked the appointment of a Board of Ministerial Education, on motion the Board appointed the old Board of Ministerial Education, as follows: Jos. Shackelford, J. M. Kitchens, J. J. Sandlin, J. G. Orr, J. T. Wallace, G. C. Hardwick and Byrd Gibson.

On motion, the Board agreed to give Centre Grove Church, Morgan county, \$40 to assist them in paying their pastor, Bro. J. D. McClanahan. The Board also agreed to pay New Friendship Church \$25, provided the church pay an equal amount. The Board also employed Bro. Shackelford to continue his work as Missionary until December 1, 1897, at the rate of \$40 per month for time actually engaged in the work.

The Board met again on February 25, 1898. Members present: A. W. Bailey, J. G. Orr, J. M. Shoemaker, Jourdan White, J. N. Bragg, W. D. Irwin, J. M. Sandlin. Bro. A. W. Bailey was made temporary chairman.

On motion of Bro. Jourdan White, the Board agreed to open the stated meetings of the Board with prayer. The Board employed Bro. Jos. Shackelford to work as Missionary from the 1st of April till the first meeting of the Board in June, at the same rate he had been working.

At a called meeting, April 26, 1898, the Board employed Bro. J. O. A. Pace as Missionary, to work within the bounds of the Association, to commence the 1st of June and continue until the Association, at the rate of \$30 per month for time actually employed in the work. Bro. A. W. Briscoe was also employed to do missionary and evangelistic work at same rate, and commencing and ending at same time as Bro. Pace. Bro. J. Gunn was also employed at this meeting to do work in a certain portion of the Association at \$20 per month, commencing June 1st and ending at meeting of the Association.

At a called meeting held July 15, 1898, Bro. Vera Shoemaker was employed at a salary of \$20 per month to aid Bro. Gunn and churches holding protracted meetings, commencing work August 1st and continuing until the Association.

We are not able to give a full report of the work of the Missionaries and Evangelists employed, on account of not receiving their monthly reports, as required. Bros. Pace and Shackelford are the only ones who have made full reports. We refer you for information as to work done, to the reports of the Missionaries.

Your Board has changed its policy somewhat in employing more Missionaries, and at a time of year when they can reach more people. The reports of our Missionaries are encouraging. The Board has assisted

two churches in employing pastors. If our action in this does not meet the approval of the Association we would be glad to know it, as we wish to do that which is best and approved by your body.

Respectfully submitted,
J. M. SANDLIN, Secretary.

H. B. IRWIN, Chairman.

Committee on Nominations.

On motion of Jos. Shackelford, the Moderator was authorized to appoint a Committee on Nominations, whose duty it shall be to nominate the different Boards of this Association, and other officers not elected by ballot, and the preacher of the Introductory Sermon and his alternate, and report the same to this Association for its approval.

On motion, the Association adjourned for one hour. Prayer by Eld. J. J. Churchwell.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Eld. E. J. Barksdale.

Correspondents to Other Bodies.

The Association appointed correspondents to the following bodies with which it corresponds:

To Florence Association—J. O. A. Pace, W. S. Jones, E. D. Stephenson.

Liberty—J. S. Gibson, J. I. Stockton, W. T. Cobbs.

Big Bear Creek—John Chenault, J. O. A. Pace, J. S. Gibson, Peter Clay.

Colbert—L. E. Stubbs, J. A. Henry, R. L. Quinn.

Cullman—J. C. Orr, T. L. Simpson, E. D. Stephenson.

Alabama Baptist State Convention—Jos. Shackelford, M. Briscoe, J. C. Orr, R. M. Strickler, E. D. Stephenson, F. C. David.

Southern Baptist Convention—E. D. Stephenson; J. Shackelford, alternate.

The Moderator announced the names of the Committee on Nominations as follows: J. I. Stockton, George Norwood, and G. H. Hughes.

Report of Board of Ministerial Education.

The report of the Board of Ministerial Education was read and adopted, as follows:

DEAR BRETHREN—The first meeting of your Board was held at Danville, October 18, 1897. Members present, Bros. J. G. Orr, J. M. Kitchens, G. C. Hardwick, J. T. Wallace and Jos. Shackelford. Bro. J. G. Orr was elected President, and Jos. Shackelford, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Secretary made a statement of the amount owing, which was \$14.35; and also of the amount pledged by the churches for ministerial education at the last session of the Association, which amount was about \$200.

A. W. Briscoe and J. L. Richey were received as beneficiaries of the Board, and \$100 of the amount pledged was appropriated to Bro. Richey and \$75 to Bro. Briscoe, and \$25 to the payment of half tuition of these brethren at the Danville school.

The Secretary was also authorized to pay for stamps and postal cards, out of any money in the treasury, when corresponding in the interest of the Board.

Bros. Briscoe and Richey attended the Danville School during the

last session. They have not quite finished the English course in this school. We therefore recommend that the Association assist them for another session. They are worthy young men, and give promise of making good and influential ministers of the gospel.

The churches have not responded to the calls of our Secretary this year as promptly as they did last year, hence our Board finds itself in debt \$118.92, with a small balance of indebtedness of last year of \$4.25, making a total indebtedness of \$123.17. The amount of pledges due the Ministerial Educational Fund from churches, Sunday Schools and individuals, is about \$110, and if we could secure the unpaid pledges of 1896, we would have enough to pay our indebtedness. To sustain the two brethren mentioned above at school for the next session, will require about \$175. We ought to raise at this meeting \$200 for ministerial education, provided the pledges are all paid, and more if they are not.

We refer you to the Treasurer's report, which accompanies this report, for information concerning the receipts and expenditures of moneys.

Respectfully submitted,

J. G. ORR, President.

JOS. SHACKELFORD, Secretary.

Report of Treasurer of Board of Ministerial Education.

JOS. SHACKELFORD, *Treasurer,*

In Account with BOARD of MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

| 1897. | | DR. | |
|-----------|--------------|--|---------|
| Sept. 30, | To Cash from | Russellville Church..... | \$ 5 00 |
| Sept. 30, | " " | First Church, Decatur..... | 5 00 |
| Oct. 1, | " " | Bros. Roan and Reid, \$2; collect'ns, \$5.41 | 7 41 |
| Oct. 1, | " " | Bro. Hays, Falkville, \$1; Hopewell Church, \$5.50 | 6 50 |
| Oct. 1, | " " | W. D. Irwin, Treasurer Association..... | 48 05 |
| Oct. 1, | " " | Harmony Church, J. A. Walker . | 1 00 |
| Oct. 9, | " " | Danville Church..... | 3 20 |
| Nov. 1, | " " | Mrs. McClanahan, pledge of 1896..... | 50 |
| Nov. 1, | " " | Miss Hutchinson..... | 1 00 |
| Nov. 9, | " " | Central Baptist S. S., New Decatur..... | 5 00 |
| Nov. 10, | " " | Bro. Williamson, Hopewell Church..... | 1 00 |
| Dec. 11, | " " | J. A. Thomason..... | 5 00 |
| 1898. | | | |
| Jan. 26, | " " | Moulton Church..... | 5 00 |
| Jan. 26, | " " | Moulton Baptist Sunday School..... | 2 50 |
| Feb. 19, | " " | Hartselle Baptist Sunday School..... | 2 50 |
| Feb. 22, | " " | Jos. Shackelford..... | 5 00 |
| Feb. 25, | " " | Pleasant Grove Church..... | 3 00 |
| Mar. 30, | " " | Okolona Church, per W. D. Irwin | 2 80 |
| Mar. 30, | " " | James Ratliffe, pledge..... | 1 00 |
| April —, | " " | Blue Spring Church..... | 3 00 |
| April —, | To am't | Pleasant Hill Church..... | 1 90 |
| April —, | " " | Town Creek Ch., \$7.85; and S. S., \$2.50.. | 10 35 |
| April —, | " " | Macedonia Church (F)..... | 2 24 |
| April —, | " " | R. T. Wear, pledge..... | 2 50 |
| April —, | " " | M. W. Orr, pledge..... | 1 00 |
| April —, | " " | New Decatur First Baptist Church | 10 00 |
| May —, | " " | Trinity Church..... | 2 50 |
| June —, | " " | Danville Church, per E. D. Stephenson... | 2 00 |
| June —, | " " | Danville Church, per G. C. Hardwick..... | 2 00 |
| June —, | " " | Town Creek Church..... | 2 15 |
| June —, | " " | Mt. Hope Church..... | 5 00 |
| Sept. 28, | " " | Somerville Church..... | 2 50 |
| Sept. 28, | " " | Danville Church, per Bro. Petty | 50 |

Total.....\$158 10

Report of Treasurer of Board of Ministerial Education.

JOS. SHACKELFORD, *Treasurer,*

In Account with BOARD OF MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

| 1897. | | CONTRA. | |
|-----------------------|--|---------|----------|
| Oct. 1, | By Am't Paid R. L. Quinn..... | \$ | 18 48 |
| Oct. 1, | " " J. L. Richey, per J. G. Orr | | 8 80 |
| Oct. 1, | " " R. L. Quinn..... | | 10 25 |
| Oct. 1, | " " J. L. Richey..... | | 5 39 |
| Oct. 1, | " " J. E. Tobbs, per Charles Speak..... | | 26 20 |
| Nov. 16, | " " J. L. Richey, \$2.50; A. W. Briscoe, \$3.50, | | 6 00 |
| Dec. 4, | " " J. L. Richey, \$3; A. W. Briscoe, \$3 | | 6 00 |
| Dec. 20, | " " A. W. Briscoe, per Jos. Shackelford..... | | 5 00 |
| 1898. | | | |
| Jan. 26, | " " J. L. Richey..... | | 7 00 |
| Jan. 26, | " " A. W. Briscoe | | 1 00 |
| Feb. 19, | " " J. L. Richey, \$1.50; A. W. Briscoe, \$7.67, | | 9 17 |
| Mar. 30, | " " J. L. Richey, \$2.50; and on Feb. 25, \$2... | | 4 50 |
| April 1, | " " J. L. Richey..... | | 10 00 |
| April 1, | " " A. W. Briscoe, per Jos. Shackelford..... | | 18 49 |
| May 1, | " " J. L. Richey, per Barnes..... | | 4 10 |
| May 1, | " " A. W. Briscoe, per Jos. Shackelford..... | | 5 00 |
| June —, | " " J. L. Richey, per E. D. Stephenson, \$2, } and G. C. Hardwick, \$2..... } | | 4 00 |
| July 16, | " " J. L. Richey, per G. Freeman..... | | 2 00 |
| July 16, | " " J. L. Richey, per Doss..... | | 1 00 |
| July 16, | " " J. L. Richey, per E. D. Stephenson..... | | 2 50 |
| July 16, | " " A. W. Briscoe, per Jos. Shackelford | | 6 50 |
| | " " for Stamps and Postal Cards | | 75 |
| | | | \$157 13 |
| Balance Due Fund..... | | | 97 |
| | | | \$158 10 |

Reports of Missionaries.

The Moderator called for the reports of Missionaries, which were read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT FROM J. O. A. PACE.

DEAR BRETHREN: I was selected to labor in the bounds of the Muscle Shoals Association on a salary of \$30 per month, beginning June 1st. I have confined my labors to such points as I thought there could be the greatest amount of good done. I assisted Bro. Blackman in a meeting at New Hope, which resulted in thirty conversions and accessions to the church. The church was greatly revived. I held a protracted meeting at Mission Grove, where I hope much good was accomplished. I have not taken up collections, in order to break down the prejudice that exists against the Missionary; for many think that he is sent out to collect money. The Board furnished me \$10 to buy Bibles with which to begin my work. The following is a report of my work for the four months in which I have been engaged: Bibles and Testaments sold, 145; Bibles and Testaments given away, 30; miles traveled, 833; days employed, 100; sermons preached, 77; family visits, 133; exhortations delivered, 10; Sunday Schools addressed, 5. Received from W. D. Irwin, Treasurer, \$85.55; from New Hope Church, \$1.45; balance due, \$15.

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. A. PACE.

REPORT OF J. GUNN.

I was employed by the Board to preach for four months. I have complied by preaching five months to the destitute and weak churches. During this time I have done the following work: Sermons preached, 80; lectures delivered, 11; baptized, 28; baptized by others in connection with my work, 18; total baptisms, 44; profession of faith in Christ, 61; received by letter, 56; restored to fellowship, 6; attended prayer meetings, 20; attended Sunday Schools, 9; assisted in protracted meetings, 7; visited families, 118; organized churches, 2—one at Moulton Heights, and one at Wolfstown. I have put in my time in the destitution in Morgan and Lawrence counties, and preached some to weak churches. I have had nothing else to do, or that I could do, except to preach two sermons per month at Pleasant Hill Church, and on Sunday night of same day to preach as Missionary. I have done the best I could, but could not supply the destitution. I have not called upon the Board for any money, and have not received any, and only expect \$20 a month for four months out of the five months' labor.

Submitted,

J. GUNN.

REPORT OF J. D. M'CLANAHAN.

DEAR BRETHREN: I was employed by your Executive Board to preach at Centre Grove Baptist Church as a Missionary pastor, at a salary of \$40. When I commenced work at this point, I found this church in a dilapidated condition. I called the church together and established my appointments, and have had regular preaching. The church is now in a very good spiritual condition. I also preached at Ryan's Cross Roads four months. This is five miles south of Centre Grove. We have had good congregations at each place. We had a meeting in this month, which lasted seven days. We had the assistance of Bro. J. E. Weaver, and a young brother, Damerson, from Georgia. There was good preaching, and we trust that good results will follow. This church is unable to support a pastor, and I recommend that our Board assist this church another year, otherwise it will be overcome by other influences. I feel, however, that it is in a condition to get on rising ground. I have received from your Board \$20, last March; April 14th, \$2 from Sisters Fannie and Ettie Johnson; from the Hartselle Baptist Church, \$18. Total, \$40. Respectfully submitted,

J. D. McCLANAHAN.

REPORT OF T. V. SHOEMAKER.

DEAR BRETHREN: I was employed by your Executive Board to labor in the eastern part of Lawrence county and in Morgan county, beginning August 1st, at \$20 per month for time actually engaged. The following is a report of my labors: Family visits made, 92; sermons preached, 45; prayer meetings held, 20; exhortations delivered, 50; conversions witnessed, 45; Sunday Schools organized, 1; time actually engaged, 56 days. Cash received from Cave Springs Church, \$5.55; balance due, \$31.78. Respectfully submitted,

T. V. SHOEMAKER.

REPORT OF JOS. SHACKELFORD.

DEAR BRETHREN: I herewith submit my report of work done by me as your Missionary during the months of October, November, December, 1897, and April and May, 1898: Days actually employed, 30; sermons preached, 22; miles traveled, 244; addresses delivered, 2; family visits made, 38; Bibles and Testaments sold, value, \$15.20; other books sold, value, \$3; subscribers to *Alabama Baptist* obtained, 3; money collected for Missions, \$9.93; for Ministerial Education, \$5.90. Received payment for my services, \$38.66. Respectfully submitted,

JOS. SHACKELFORD.

On motion, the hour of 11 A. M. to-morrow was made the special hour for the consideration of the reports on Missions and the discussion of the same.

On motion of Bro. R. T. Wear, the first hour of the afternoon session to-morrow was made the special hour for the consideration of Ministerial Education and Education generally.

State of Religion.

The Committee on State of Religion submitted their report, which was adopted, as follows:

Your Committee on State of Religion beg leave to report: From the reading of the letters, and other sources of information, it appears that the spiritual condition of many of our churches is greatly improved. Some have reported gracious revivals of religion, and an ingathering of many precious souls. We are sorry to have to report that some of the churches report a low state of religion; yet, in taking a survey of the entire field, we believe that we are on rising ground. There are more agencies for good than we have ever known before, and we believe that our spiritual condition is improving.

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. A. PACE,
W. S. HOWELL.

Deceased Ministers.

The report on Deceased Ministers was read by Bro. R. T. Wear, and was adopted by a rising vote, as follows:

Your Committee on Deceased Ministers announce with sadness the death of our beloved brother, T. R. Bragg, since the last meeting of this body. Our brother preached the gospel of Christ 23 years—about 10 years in the State of Texas, and the remaining years in this Association. Naturally retiring in his manner, yet strong in the faith of the gospel; well versed and sound in the truth of God's Word; tender and affectionate as a husband and father; true as a friend. In his death we have sustained a great loss. We recommend his grief-stricken children and relatives to the blessed Christ, whom he preached, for comfort and consolation. We suggest that this Association suspend business for a few minutes in respect to the memory of our departed brother, which, we believe, is so justly due.

R. T. WEAR,
J. J. CHURCHWELL,
JAS. T. PEARSON.

In compliance with the suggestion of the Committee, the Association suspended business in memory of our deceased brother, Eld. T. R. Bragg, and engaged in a service of song, and prayer was made by Eld. E. D. Stephenson.

The question of locating the church where the next Association should meet was postponed, and the hour for its consideration was appointed to be the first business to-morrow afternoon, after the consideration of the subject of Ministerial Education.

Bros. Pace and Horton presented the request for aid from New Hope Church, which proposes to build a new house of worship. All who can help are asked to do so, and send money to Clerk of New Hope Church, Courtland, Ala.

Bro. J. I. Stockton presented the subject of the distribution of tracts,

and moved that it be brought up now, which was carried. He then made some remarks on the subject. The matter was laid over until to-morrow as unfinished business.

The Association adjourned until to-morrow at 9 A. M. Prayer by Eld. J. S. Gibson.

THIRD DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

SATURDAY, October 1, 1898.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. The devotional exercises were conducted by Eld. E. J. Barksdale.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The first business in order was the subject of tract distribution. Bro. J. I. Stockton made a report on the subject, which was discussed by Bros. Stockton, Shackelford, T. L. Simpson, R. M. Strickler, J. O. A. Pace and L. A. Wear, after which the report was adopted, as follows:

Your Committee of the Circulation of Baptist Literature, report, that last January we sent a personal appeal to every pastor in our bounds to present this matter to their churches, and recently we called the attention of our churches to this matter through the Hartselle and Moulton papers, and have now to report that so little money has been sent up to this Association for this purpose, that we would recommend that this work be referred to the churches and the Committee discharged, unless this Association should take more decided steps to raise a fund to carry out the spirit of the original resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

J. I. STOCKTON.

Ministerial Institute Work.

The subject of Ministerial Institute Work was brought up, and Bro. J. I. Stockton addressed the Association in behalf of the Institute Board. He was followed by Bros. Jos. Shackelford, R. T. Wear and J. O. A. Pace, after which the following resolution, offered by Bro. Jos. Shackelford, was adopted:

Resolved, That this Association most heartily approve the action of the last Baptist State Convention of Alabama in establishing the Ministerial Institute Board, and we urge our churches, brethren and sisters to contribute to this work, and make this Board one of the objects of their regular contributions.

Missions.

The hour of 11 A. M. having arrived, the subject of Missions was taken up, and the reports of the various Standing Committees on Missions were read.

The report on Associational Missions was read by the Clerk.

On State Missions, by J. I. Stockton.

On Home Missions, by J. S. Gibson.

On Foreign Missions, by E. D. Stephenson.

The whole subject of Missions was then discussed, and speeches, limited to ten minutes, were made by Bros. Pace, E. D. Stephenson, L. A. Wear, R. T. Wear, Jos. Shackelford and J. S. Gibson, after which, at the request of the Moderator, the Clerk took up the pledges from the churches, Sunday Schools and individuals.

Pledges from Churches.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|----------|
| Bethel, paid F. C..... | \$ 6 00 | Bethany | \$ 1 00 |
| Cave Spring, J. Ratliffe..... | 1 00 | Mt. Zion (L), J. L. Richey | 5 00 |
| Central, New Decatur | 30 00 | Mt. Nebo (F)..... | 20 00 |
| Danville | 50 00 | Mt. Nebo (M)..... | 5 00 |
| Enon | 15 00 | Mt. Hope..... | 20 00 |
| Falkville | 25 00 | Mt Pisgah, paid F. C..... | 12 50 |
| Gum Spring (L), W. H. Huston | 5 00 | Moulton | 10 00 |
| Gum Spring (M), paid F. C... .. | 5 53 | New Hope, paid F. C | 6 50 |
| Harmony..... | 10 00 | New Prospect..... | 5 00 |
| Hillsboro..... | 15 00 | New Centre, paid F. C..... | 1 00 |
| Hopewell..... | 10 00 | New Decatur, First..... | 65 00 |
| Hartselle..... | 40 00 | Okolona (F M)..... | 20 00 |
| Lebanon..... | 5 00 | Pleasant Grove, paid F. C. | 7 86 |
| Macedonia (F), \$1 paid on..... | 10 00 | Russellville..... | 10 00 |
| Macedonia (M), paid F. C..... | 4 00 | Salem..... | 5 00 |
| Pleasant Hill (M)..... | 5 00 | Somerville | 5 00 |
| Town Creek..... | 20 00 | Shady Grove..... | 5 00 |
| Moulton Heights | 2 50 | Trinity, paid F. C..... | 9 85 |
| Bellview..... | 7 50 | | |
| | <hr/> | | |
| | \$266 53 | | \$213 71 |

From Sunday Schools.

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|---------|
| Central, Decatur | \$ 5 00 | Danville Sunday School...\$ | 5 00 |
| Falkville, Tract Fund..... | 2 50 | Hartselle Sunday School.. | 5 00 |
| Moulton | 5 00 | Town Creek..... | 2 50 |
| Moulton Heights..... | 1 00 | | |
| | <hr/> | | |
| | \$13 50 | | \$12 50 |
| | | | 13 50 |

Total from Sunday Schoc'\$26 00

Individuals.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Dr. J. M. Kitchens, F. M., in name of Hartselle Church, paid..... | \$ 5 00 |
| E. J. Barksdale, paid..... | 50 |
| R. M. Atkins..... | 1 00 |
| J. A. Henry... .. | 50 |
| J. W. Murphey, paid..... | 25 |
| George Norwood, paid.. .. | 1 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total..... | \$ 8 25 |

| | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Total from Churches..... | \$485 24 |
| “ Sunday Schools..... | 26 00 |
| “ Individuals | 8 25 |
| General Collections | 3 67 |
| Collection on Sunday..... | 4 57 |

Total Pledged and Paid.....\$527 73

The various reports on Missions were adopted as follows:

Associational Missions.

Your Committee on Associational Missions report that, in our opinion, the question of Associational Missions is the foundation upon which hangs all of our hope for the support of all our Mission work, viz: The State, Home and Foreign. After hearing the reports of our Missionaries, we are sorry to report that there is so much destitution in our midst. But we thank God that there has been a great work accomplished this year by our Missionaries, but on account of deficiency in our funds the Board could only employ laborers for a short time. We would recommend that our churches come to the support of the Board with a sufficiency of money to enable the Board to employ Missionaries to fill the destitution within our bounds. This would be the means in the hands of God by which we, as an Association, would fulfill the command of the Saviour, to preach the gospel. If our Associational fund is short, our contributions to the Home and Foreign Boards will be apt to be short. Be it remembered that Jesus Christ said, "Ye shall be witnesses of me in Jerusalem and Samaria, and to the uttermost parts of the earth." Jerusalem represented our Associational field; Samaria, our Home field; and the uttermost parts of the earth, the Foreign fields. May we be guided by Christ, the great Head of the Church, to do our whole duty in relieving the perishing.

Respectfully submitted,
J. D. McCLANAHAN, Chairman.

Report on State Missions.

While the Church work of Home and Foreign Missions is binding on us, and we rejoice with thousands of God's servants throughout our great country at the untiring efforts put forth to evangelize the heathen in dark and benighted lands, and while we are highly gratified at the wonderful success of the gospel in heathen countries, yet we are made to see the much needed work in our own beloved State.

One great object of State Mission work is to aid weak and struggling churches at important points, without which Baptist churches could not exist. At a number of points in the State help has been extended by the State Board from year to year, until many of those churches have become self-sustaining, and are now contributing of their means to help other weak churches. Churches needing help in various parts of the State are numerous, and are reaching out their hands to their stronger sister churches to render them the needed assistance.

In the wisdom of the State Board it was believed the thing to do was to continue several evangelists in the field, who have been efficient in carrying the gospel into many destitute parts of the State, and they have also labored with might and main to arouse the churches generally to enlarge their contributions in order, not only to meet the destitution of our own State, but to aid all the enterprises fostered by the denomination.

Brethren, it is plain to every one who is informed as to our work in home and foreign fields, that we are merely playing at Missions. With our powerful denomination and vast and varied resources, what a plaything we have on our hands instead of a work commensurate with the responsibility upon us and our ability to meet it, if we had, as the apostle says, "First a willing mind." The almost universal complaint of the churches all over the State, when they talk about raising money for religious purposes, is: "What we have raised has been done by the faithful few. Only a few of us had to do all the paying." Just think of it! It has been estimated by those who ought to know, that out of 118,000 white Baptists in the State of Alabama, only 12,000 pay regularly to Missions. Who are the other 106,000? Are they Hard Shells, or Anti-Missionary? Who is to blame that all this mighty host of God's servants are not contributing regularly to spread the gospel in all the world? The

blame, it is said, lies at the door of us who are the pastors of the churches. Can we successfully refute the allegation and free ourselves from the charge?

At Miletum, Paul called the elders of the Church together and said unto them: "I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God." Can we, as the leaders of the churches, say as much? To declare all the counsel of God will require that we say no little along the line of our ministry about selfishness, about covetousness, about Christian sacrifice, about Christian giving, about Christian benevolence, about its being more blessed to give than to receive.

And a great deal must be said about God's demanding of his people the first fruits of all their increase. Then there is that class which, according to Malachi, may be styled religious robbers, who withhold all the tithes and offerings from the Lord. God asks the astounding question by the mouth of his prophet: "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings." Have we, as pastors, been faithful in this part of the counsel in warning the people against the awful sin of robbing God? If not, how can we, as God's watchman on the wall, at the end of our stewardship, assert with the apostle: "I have shunned not to declare unto you all the counsel of God?"

Our beloved Secretary, Dr. W. C. Bledsoe, is calling almost imploringly upon the churches of the State to rally with increased liberality to enable the Board to meet the deficit of the last conventional year, together with the deficit threatening the Board in the present year's work. Let us of the Muscle Shoals Association help liberally to meet all the pressing needs of our State Mission work.

The work, under God, in the State has prospered this year, and it lies, easily, in the power of the churches, so wonderfully blessed of God in temporal things, to clear away every vestige of the Board's indebtedness by the meeting of the Convention in November, and have a large balance in the treasury to begin the work of another year.

Fraternally submitted,

F. C. DAVID, Chairman.

Home Missions.

Your Committee on Home Missions report as follows: We are not posted as to the work of the Home Mission Board for the past two years. We are, therefore, not prepared to give statistics, but we believe that the labors of the Home Board have been abundantly blessed, and that many precious souls have been brought from darkness to light, and from the kingdom of Satan into the kingdom of God's dear Son, through its instrumentality. Our Saviour said, just before He left the world, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." "Go, teach all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and lo! I am with you always, even unto the end of the world;" and He commanded that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. So we see that the Divine injunction is to begin at Jerusalem—at home—and preach the gospel in the borders of the Association, and throughout the State, and then it is to be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations, until the kingdoms of the world shall become the kingdoms of God and His Christ.

Brethren, the cry still comes from Macedonia, "Come over and help us." Let us send the gospel to those who have it not; to those who sit in darkness and in the region and shadow of death. Let us not be satisfied with having it preached in our own Association and State, but let us send it to Cuba, and to the cities and destitute places in our own country, and to all the world.

J. L. RICHY, Ch'n.

Foreign Missions.

So far as the practical work of Foreign Missions is concerned, which is shown from the statistics reported to the Southern Baptist Convention by the Board of Foreign Missions, your Committee would refer to briefly.

Twenty years ago we had, all told, sixteen missionaries and three native assistants, and contributions about \$32,000. Ten years ago, we had 116 missionaries and native helpers, with 1,551 members; contributions \$80,880. Last year we had 190 missionaries and native helpers, 660 baptisms, 4,324 members, with contributions of over \$128,000. This showing verifies God's promise, "Lo! I am with you alway." What think you, brethren, of our work for the past twenty years, compared with mission work previous to that time? Should we not thank God and take courage? In our secular business we are in the habit of asking, "Does it pay?" Christ says that our soul is worth more than this world. In twenty years we have made gains amounting to more than 4,000 such worlds as this. We should certainly thank God for the success that has attended our efforts, and take courage, and press on to greater efforts to advance the kingdom of our Master.

But, brethren, while we should exult with a holy pride at the result of our labors, yet we have reason to reproach ourselves because we have done so little. Nearly nineteen hundred years ago the Lord Jesus commissioned His disciples to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature, and yet we are not over more than one-third of the field. With this showing, how can we face God when called to render to Him an account of our stewardship? Shall we not give the gospel car a more energetic shove? Will we not show to God and a lost world a greater appreciation of the gospel, "which is the power of God unto salvation," by greater efforts to send it to the whole world?

T. V. SHOEMAKER,
E. D. STEPHENSON.

Adjourned for one hour: Prayer by Bro. R. T. Wear.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association assembled at the appointed time. Prayer by Bro. Strickler.

The Committee appointed to answer the query proposed by Bro. Wm. East, reported the following answer, which was adopted:

Your Committee, appointed to answer Bro. Wm. East's query, would advise the church to which the member referred to belongs, to prefer charges against said member for contempt of church, and withdraw fellowship from him. Also, we advise the church to which the preacher referred to belongs, to take the same steps towards him.

J. I. STOCKTON,
J. C. ORR,
PETER CLAY.

Education.

The report on Ministerial Education was read by Bro. Jos. Shackelford, and the report on Education was read by Bro. J. C. Tidwell. The discussion of the subject of education, both ministerial and general, was participated in by Bros. J. C. Orr, Jos. Shackelford and Strickler, after which the Moderator took pledges for Ministerial Education as follows:

Pledges.

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Central, New Decatur..... | \$ 5 00 | Moulton | \$10 00 |
| Central S. S., New Decatur..... | 5 00 | Mt Hope..... | 5 00 |
| Danville..... | 10 00 | Moulton Sunday School... | 5 00 |
| Enon..... | 2 50 | New Decatur, First..... | 10 00 |
| Falkville..... | 1 00 | Okolona..... | 2 00 |
| Harmony..... | 2 00 | Russellville S. S..... | 5 00 |
| Hopewell..... | 5 00 | Salem..... | 1 00 |
| Hartselle..... | 5 00 | Somerville..... | 2 50 |
| Macedonia (F)..... | 2 00 | Pleasant Hill (M)..... | 2 00 |
| Macedonia (M)..... | 1 00 | Shady Grove | 1 00 |
| Mt. Nebo (F)..... | 5 00 | Town Creek..... | 10 00 |
| Bethany..... | 1 00 | Town Creek S. S..... | 2 50 |
| Isabell..... | 2 50 | Trinity, paid F. C..... | 2 00 |
| | \$47 00 | | \$58 00 |

INDIVIDUAL PLEDGES.

| | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Jos. Shackelford | \$ 5 00 | T. H. Johnson..... | \$ 2 50 |
| J. A. Thomason..... | 10 00 | E. D. Stephenson and wife, | 2 50 |
| G. H. Hughes, paid | 1 00 | Sim Orr, paid..... | 1 00 |
| Frank Orr, paid..... | 1 00 | J. T. Wallace..... | 1 00 |
| N. D. Wright..... | 3 00 | Rebecca Warren..... | 25 |
| Jenn'e Wear..... | 50 | Miss Minnie Orr..... | 1 00 |
| Miss E. P. Chiles..... | 1 00 | W. T. Cobbs | 1 00 |
| Hat Collection | 3 77 | | |
| | \$25 27 | | \$ 9 25 |
| | | | 25 27 |

Total from Individuals.....\$ 34 52
Total from Churches and Sunday Schools..... 105 00

Total Pledged and Collected.....\$139 52

The reports on Education were then adopted, as follows:

Report on Ministerial Education.

This Association has, by its past action, emphasized its opinion on this subject of ministerial education. She has assisted in the education of many young ministers. There has not been a year since 1879, nearly twenty years ago, that the Association has not raised a fund to aid young ministers in securing an education. In 1879, at the session of the Association at Bethel Church, Lawrence county, a Board of Ministerial Education was appointed, whose duty it was to search out young men who had the ministry in view, and who were approved by their churches, and to raise money from the churches to aid such young men in obtaining an education. That Board has been continued up to the present time. Two hundred and sixty-five dollars were pledged by the churches for ministerial education at that meeting.

Since that time, the Board of Ministerial Education has expended more than \$1,500 for this object. Within the last four or five years the pledges made for this object have amounted to about \$200 annually. This action of the Association shows what she thinks of Ministerial Education, and her duty to aid in the good work. There are, however, some of our churches who never contribute anything to this object, and some brethren who oppose it. For their sakes we present a few arguments in favor of Ministerial Education, and we kindly ask them to give these arguments careful consideration.

First—He who preaches to others must himself be taught in the Word, and be able to teach that which he has learned. God calls men to preach, but they must prepare themselves for the work. He does not make special revelation to any man. He has given them his Word, and they must study it. Education is the training of the mind to think, and it prepares one to express his thoughts in proper language; it also enables one to better understand that which he reads. If the preacher, by securing an education, can better understand the Bible, and become a more effective preacher than he otherwise would be without an education, then he ought to have an education.

Second—Many young men who are called of God to preach, have had no educational advantages. They have not had the financial means to secure an education. They feel the want of it, and realize that they could accomplish more for the cause of Christ if they had an education. Is it not the duty of the churches of Christ to help such young men to secure an education? We think it is. If it is their duty to send the gospel to the heathen, or to have it preached at home, then it is equally their duty to aid those who are called to preach the gospel to become effective ministers. We see no difference in the obligations. If it is binding in the one case, it is equally so in the other.

Third—The times and our surroundings require that we shall have an educated ministry. The teacher must keep ahead of his pupils, or he will prove a failure. The preacher must keep ahead of his people, or he will cease to interest them. Our people are advancing in knowledge. The rising generation will be ahead of the present generation, because of their peculiar and increased advantages. There will be more educated people in the next decade in our country than there has ever been before. The pulpit must be in advance in order to hold its own. Baptist preachers, with the truth as they hold it, *educated*, and God-fearing men, need not fear of success in the propagation of their doctrines. We have schools in which our young ministers can be prepared. It is the duty of the churches to see that their young ministers attend those schools.

Lastly, when we contribute of our means to assist our young ministers in obtaining an education, we are casting our bread upon the waters to be gathered in the future in a tenfold ratio. These young men will go out as teachers of morality and religion. They will be instruments by which thousands will be brought to Christ. They will help to make the world better, and they will return to the churches that aided them in their contributions and influence, and in the building up of the general cause of Christianity, a thousand fold more than was ever given them. That church or brother who refuses to aid such a cause as this, is casting away from them a most precious privilege. The Saviour's words are certainly true in this regard: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Respectfully submitted,

JOS. SHACKELFORD, Chairman.

Report on Education,

The subject of the development and education of the children and the youths of our people, is one that is fraught with great responsibility, and should be full of great concern. Never in the history of this great country, of which we so justly boast, has there been a time when such a powerful demand was made on our people to lead out and press forward to the true education of the rising generation of this nation. Questions of great moment—questions of wonderful magnitude—are to confront the nation, and we, as a denomination, must look well to the intellectual training of our children, as well as to the moral and physical development. The time (thank the Lord) is here when the great majority of this commonwealth are hunting Christian men and Christian women to educate their sons and daughters. We, as a people, as a

nation, must see to it that our children go under the instruction of godly men and godly women. We want our children educated not only in the text-books—not only intellectually—but on all lines that will make them true citizens. To this end, we have some excellent institutions. The Howard College, at East Lake, Ala., stands as a monument to the energy and sacrifice of noble men and women of the Baptist denomination. The Judson, at Marion, Alabama, stands beckoning the girls and young ladies of our denomination to its classic halls. The North Alabama Baptist Collegiate Institute, at Danville, is doing a great work in getting our boys and girls ready for the great duties of life. These schools ought to be encouraged and fostered by the Baptists of this State. As a denomination, we are too careless about giving to these schools that sympathy and that patronage which they justly merit.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. TIDWELL, Chairman.

Location of the Next Association.

The subject of the place where the next Association should be held came up according to previous arrangement. The following churches were put in nomination in the order as named: Mt. Pisgah, Macedonia, in Franklin, Okolona, and Falkville. On taking the vote, a majority of the delegates cast their votes for Okolona; so Okolona was selected as the church with which the next Association should be held, and on motion, Thursday before the first Sabbath in October, was appointed as the time.

Trustees of Danville School.

The Committee appointed to suggest names of three Trustees for the Danville school, to fill the places of those Trustees whose term expires at this session, reported, recommending G. C. Hardwick, J. G. Orr and F. H. Orr, which report was adopted.

The Finance Committee made their report which was adopted, with the understanding that the Clerk make such corrections as may be necessary. (See report on page 25.)

Orphans' Home.

The Committee on Orphans' Home made their report, and a subscription for the Home was taken, amounting to \$5.30 cash, and pledges amounting to \$3.50: From Dr. E. D. Stephenson and wife, \$2 50, and W. D. Irwin, \$1. The report was then adopted, as follows:

We your Committee on Orphans' Home, ask your consideration of the following: The Orphans' Home is an institution for which the Baptists of the State should be very grateful to God. Its Financial Secretary, Bro. J. W. Stewart, with faith and zeal, has made it the refuge of the homeless and parentless. It has received since opening, March 10, 1893, 96 children from the various counties of the State. About 55 remain in the Home, the others having been adopted and apprenticed. The children are taught to do all kinds of domestic work. They are also sent to literary and Sunday School, and church; thus training them mentally, morally and physically. The Home enjoys splendid recent improvements, affording ample accommodation, with a cost of \$3,500. A current debt remains of about \$500. If we respond liberally to the appeal of Bro. Stewart, the Home will be dedicated the 20th of Octo-

ber, free of debt. Let the pastors and Sunday School Superintendents encourage this great work. "Cast thy bread upon the waters, for thou shalt find it after many days."

Respectfully submitted,
MARION BRISCOE, Chairman.

Temperance.

The report on Temperance was read by Bro. J. C. Orr, and adopted, as follows:

The discussion of the Temperance question is getting to be a back number, yet there is a great deal of trouble on that line. The fellow who is doing the dirty work in this country is not the old sot, who has lost his influence, but it is the nice, genteel fellow, that belongs to somebody's church. He goes in and takes a drink, and goes on, saying, I take a drink when I feel like it, but it never hurts me.

J. C. ORR.

Sunday Schools.

The report on Sunday Schools was read by Bro. T. H. Johnson, and after some discussion by Bros. Jos. Shackelford and J. C. Orr, was adopted:

Your Committee on Sunday Schools beg leave to report: Last year, of the 50 churches represented in this body, 31 reported Sunday Schools, with a membership of 1,439. Two of the Schools gave no statistics. This year, out of 48 churches represented, 33 report Schools, with a membership of 1,304. Four of the Schools gave no statistics. From these reports it is clearly seen that we are not making the progress in the Sunday School work that we ought to make. A few of the churches report summer Schools, but go into winter quarters. This should not be the case. Religion will stand cold as well as heat, hence these Schools should be continued the whole year. We are fearful that the churches do not take that interest in Sunday School work that they should take. Our Sunday Schools would become a power for the dissemination of the Word of God, if conducted properly. We urge each School to send a full report of its work, that we may know what our denomination is doing along this line. We would also recommend the literature of the Southern Baptist Convention, published at Nashville, Tenn., as cheap, plain, simple, and well adapted to our needs. We believe that Baptists should attend Baptist schools, and use Baptist literature. We oppose union schools, and believe their teachings to be erroneous. As Baptists, let up support Baptist Sunday Schools.

Respectfully submitted,

R. L. QUINN, Chairman.

Bro. J. Shackelford presented the claims of the Sunday School Board at Nashville, and urged the brethren to send to it for Sunday School literature.

Treasurer's Report.

Bro. W. D. Irwin, Treasurer of the Association, made his report, which was adopted, as follows:

W. D. IRWIN, *Treasurer,*

In Account with MUSCLE SHOALS ASSOCIATION.

1897.

| | | |
|-----------|--|-----------------|
| Sept. 30, | To balance on hand..... | \$117 83 |
| Oct. 2, | To Cash from Finance Committee..... | 332 00 |
| Oct. 3, | " " Finance Committee..... | 79 80 |
| Oct. 4, | " " Sunday's Collections..... | 7 91 |
| Oct. 4, | " " Courtland Church Fund, Interest..... | 16 00 |
| Oct. 4, | " " Jos. Shackelford's pledge | 5 00 |
| Oct. 4, | " " Danville Church | 10 09 |
| Oct. 4, | " " Central Church, New Decatur.. | 4 59 |
| Oct. 4, | " " First Church, Decatur..... | 3 98 |
| Oct. 4, | " " Pleasant Grove Church | 5 00 |
| Oct. 4, | " " Somerville Church | 2 43 |
| Oct. 4, | " " Danville Sunday School..... | 1 50 |
| Oct. 4, | " " New Hope Church (F. M.)..... | 3 25 |
| Nov. 24, | " " Okolona Church (Min. Ed.)... | 1 50 |
| Dec. 21, | " " Decatur Church (F. M.)..... | 3 12 |
| Dec. 21, | " " Bethany Church (F. M.)..... | 65 |
| 1898. | | |
| Jan. 15, | " " L. A. Wear (F. M.)..... | 50 |
| Jan. 28, | " " Okolona Church (Min. Ed.)... | 1 30 |
| Feb. 10, | " " L. A. Wear (F. M.)..... | 1 50 |
| Mar. 14, | " " Okolona Church (F. M.)..... | 71 |
| Mar. 23, | " " Danville Church | 2 60 |
| Sept. 9, | " " Harmony Church..... | 3 88 |
| Sept. 13, | " " New Hope Church | 1 45 |
| Sept. 27, | " " F. C. Owen, bequest..... | 20 00—\$ 626 59 |

1897

CR.

| | | |
|-----------|--|------------------|
| Oct. 3, | By Am't paid J. M. Roberts, on Salary..... | \$ 74 00 |
| Oct. 3, | " " J. O. A. Pace, on Salary..... | 23 00 |
| Oct. 3, | " " Ministerial Ed. Board..... | 48 05 |
| Oct. 3, | " " Clerk's Fee..... | 25 00 |
| Oct. 4, | " " Jos. Shackelford, Salary..... | 32 59 |
| Oct. 4, | " " Jos. Shackelford, Bal. on Salary.... | 9 41 |
| Oct. 14, | " " State Mission Board..... | 14 50 |
| Oct. 14, | " " Home Mission Board..... | 18 35 |
| Oct. 14, | " " Foreign Mission Board | 82 10 |
| Oct. 14, | " " Orphan's Home..... | 4 19 |
| Nov. 27, | " " Jos. Shackelford, Salary | 40 00 |
| Nov. 27, | " " Postage | 10 |
| Dec. 21, | " " Jos. Shackelford, on Salary..... | 16 00 |
| 1898. | | |
| Mar. 14, | " " J. D. McClanahan, on Salary... | 20 00 |
| Mar. 14, | " " Postage, 10c., Ministerial Ed. \$2 80; | 2 92 |
| April 25, | " " Jos. Shackelford, on Salary..... | 20 00 |
| May 5, | " " J. O. A. Pace, on Salary | 10 00 |
| May 23, | " " Jos. Shackelford, on Salary..... | 2 66 |
| July 21, | " " J. O. A. Pace, on Salary | 26 00 |
| Aug. 2, | " " J. O. A. Pace, on Salary | 27 00 |
| Sept. 13, | " " J. O. A. Pace, on Salary | 22 00 |
| Sept. 30, | By balance on hand..... | 108 72—\$ 626 59 |

The Committee on Nominations made their report which was adopted, as follows:

Your Committee on nominations would recommend the re-election of the old Executive Board; also, the re-election of the old Board of ministerial Education.

We nominate Eld. Jos. Shackelford to preach the Introductory Sermon at our next Association, and Eld. R. T. Ware as his alternate.

Respectfully submitted,

J. I. STOCKTON,
G. H. HUGHES,
WM. EAST.

The names of the Boards appear on first page of the cover.

Report on Colportage.

The Committee on Colportage made their report, which was adopted, as follows:

Your Committee on Colportage feel themselves altogether inadequate to the task of reporting to this body the magnitude of the needed work, and the crying demand for purely Baptist literature within our bounds. We do not believe that any other question surpasses this one in importance. The membership in our churches aggregate about 3,000. A large per cent. of this number need to be indoctrinated in the great truths that Christ gave for our edification. The pastor of a church may be well informed, and have the gift of imparting information to his hearers, but it is utterly impossible for him to reach the members who do not attend church, and most of our churches have preaching but once a month, which gives the pastor but one hour in thirty days of twenty-four hours each, to instruct his people. Hence, it is clear to our minds that the very best thing we can do is to circulate Bibles and good books among our people, by the reading of which they, in a few years, would become strong in "the faith once delivered to the Saints;" and not only so, but be able to defend the same. We recommend, as did the Committee on this work one year ago, that the Association instruct the Executive Board to furnish our Missionaries the necessary funds for this work.

J. I. STOCKTON,
T. H. JOHNSON,
J. G. ORR.

Minutes and Clerk's Fee.

Bro. R. T. Wear introduced the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Clerk have 1,000 copies of the minutes printed, and that he superintend the distribution of the same, and that he be paid \$25 for his services.

Resolution of Thanks.

Bro. J. S. Gibson offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That we, the delegates of the Muscle Shoals Association, tender to Enon Church and community our heartfelt thanks for their kind hospitality while in their midst.

Division of Funds.

Bro. Shackelford offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Treasurer of the Association is hereby instructed to send what moneys he may receive from the churches for Foreign, Home and State Missions directly to the State Mission Board, Mont-

gomery, Ala.; and, in addition to the amounts which the churches have directed to be sent to their different Boards, and have already sent them, the Treasurer is hereby directed to send to the State Mission Board a sufficient sum to make the contribution from this Association amount to at least \$100 to the State Mission Board, \$75 to the Foreign Mission Board, and \$5 to the Home Mission Board, at Atlanta, Ga.

Bro. W. L. Wright made some explanation of the amount that the Executive Board had promised to give to New Friendship Church to help her pastor, and the conditions, and said that the church had not complied with the conditions as yet, but thought she would do so.

On motion, the Executive Board was instructed to pay Bro. Wright in proportion to the amount paid by the church, of the \$35 required.

Standing Committees.

The Moderator announced the following Standing Committees:

Associational Missions—M. Briscoe, W. E. Wright, Peter Clay.

State Missions—J. D. McClanahan, Rush Stockton, J. M. Chenault.

Home Missions—J. I. Stockton, J. T. Wallace, Louis Stubbs.

Foreign Missions—J. Gunn, G. W. Hargett, T. H. Johnson.

Education—Jos Shackelford, J. S. Gibson, J. J. Sandlin.

Ministerial Education—E. J. Barksdale, L. A. Wear, R. M. Strickler.

Orphan's Home—A. W. Briscoe, T. L. Simpson, T. N. Vinson.

Temperance—J. C. Orr, Willie S. Howell, E. D. Stephenson.

Colportage—A. W. Bailey, R. L. Quinn, F. H. Orr.

Sunday Schools—T. V. Shoemaker, J. W. Livingston, J. J. Churchwell.

The business of the Association having been concluded, on motion, it adjourned to meet with Okolona Church, Lawrence county, Ala., on Thursday before the first Sabbath in October, 1899.

After singing a hymn and giving the parting hand, prayer was made by Bro. E. D. Stephenson.

W. T. COBBS, *Moderator*.

JOS. SHACKELFORD, *Clerk*.

Sunday's Services.

The Devotional Committee appointed services for Sunday as follows:

At 9 o'clock A. M., Sunday School Meeting, to be addressed by Eld. A. W. Briscoe and others.

11:00 A. M.—Preaching by Eld. R. T. Wear, at Enon.

11:00 A. M.—Preaching by J. O. A. Pace, at Danville.

7:30 P. M.—Preaching by W. T. Cobbs, at Danville.

These brethren preached. At Enon there was a vast crowd; not more than one-third could get into the house. The public collection amounted to \$4.57. We trust good was done through the preached word.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE, 1898.

| CHURCHES AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS AND INDIVIDUALS | State Mission—Cash | State Mission—Vouch'r | Home Mission—Cash | Home Mission—Vouch'r | For'n Mission—Cash | For'n Mission—Vouch'r | Associational Mission—Cash | Associational Mission—Voucher | Ministerial Education—Cash | Ministerial Education—Voucher | Orphan's Home—Cash | Orphan's Home—Vouch'r | Ministry's Institute—Voucher | Ministry Fund | Total Cash | Total Vouchers | Total Cash and Vouchers |
|---|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|---------------|------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| Bethel | \$ | \$ | \$ 6 00 | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ 50 | \$ 6 50 | \$ | \$ 6 50 |
| Blue Springs | | | | | | | 3 00 | | | | | | | | 80 | 3 80 | 3 80 |
| Bethlev | | | | | | | 2 00 | | | | | | | | 50 | 2 50 | 2 50 |
| Bethany | | | | | | | | | | | 1 00 | | | | 50 | 1 50 | 1 50 |
| Cave Spring | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 50 | 50 | 50 |
| Central, New Decatur | | 14 57 | | 5 00 | | | 5 43 | | | 15 00 | | | | 9 33 | 2 50 | 7 43 | 49 50 |
| Cherry Hill | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 70 | 3 70 | 3 70 |
| Centro Grove | | | | | | | 3 00 | | 3 00 | | | | | | 5 00 | 5 00 | 5 00 |
| Deaville | | 13 42 | | | | | 27 35 | 3 80 | | 10 00 | | 5 80 | | | 27 65 | 35 65 | 60 28 |
| Decatur, First | 2 73 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 75 | 3 50 | 3 50 |
| Enon | | | | | 3 00 | | 7 75 | | 2 50 | | | | | 40 | 13 25 | 8 13 25 | 13 85 |
| Friendship | | | | | | | 2 00 | | | | | | | | 2 00 | | 2 00 |
| Falkville | | | | | | | 10 00 | | 1 00 | | | | | | 1 50 | 12 50 | 12 50 |
| Gum Spring (N) | | 2 43 | | 3 10 | | | 4 00 | | | | | | | | 1 00 | 4 10 | 2 43 |
| Gum Spring (L) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 40 | 4 40 | 4 40 |
| Harmon | | | | | | 35 | | 3 88 | 1 00 | | | | | | | 1 00 | 4 13 |
| Hopewell | | | | 5 00 | | | 5 00 | | | 5 00 | | | | | 75 | 10 75 | 5 00 |
| Hillboro | | 5 65 | | | | | 10 30 | 3 15 | 5 00 | | | | | | 50 | 15 70 | 5 30 |
| Hartselle | | 5 00 | | 9 00 | | | 19 00 | 20 00 | 5 00 | 5 00 | | | | | 33 00 | 30 00 | 63 00 |
| Lohman | | | | 5 00 | | | | | | | | | | | 1 00 | 6 00 | 6 00 |
| Macedonia (F) | | | | 7 00 | | | 7 00 | | | 2 25 | | | | | 1 00 | 15 00 | 5 25 |
| Macedonia (M) | | | | | | | 4 00 | | | | | | | | 55 | 4 55 | 4 55 |
| Mt. Zion (L) | | | | | | | 1 00 | | | 3 50 | | | | | 35 | | |
| Mt. Nabo (F) | | | | | | | 19 00 | | | | | | | | 1 00 | | |
| Mt. Nabo (M) | | | | | | | 5 00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mt. Hope | 13 75 | 6 25 | | | | | | | | 5 90 | | | | | 1 00 | | |
| Mt. Piquet | | | | | | | 12 50 | | | | | | | | 75 | | |
| Moulton | | 3 15 | | | | | 5 00 | | 6 85 | 5 00 | | | | 3 12 | 1 00 | | |
| Moulton Heights | | | | | | | 2 00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| New Prospect | 1 00 | | 3 80 | 2 00 | | | 1 00 | | | | | | | | | 55 | |
| New Decatur, First | | 14 54 | 11 01 | 10 00 | 3 30 | | | | | 10 80 | 3 01 | 15 10 | 2 15 | | 41 | | |
| New Centre | | | | | | | 2 00 | | | | | | | | 80 | | |
| New Friendship | | | | | | | 4 05 | | 1 45 | | | | | | | 1 00 | |
| New Hope | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 12 | |
| Okolona | | | | 15 00 | | | | | | 2 80 | | | | | | 1 00 | |
| Pleasant Grove | | | | 6 00 | 1 86 | | 4 00 | | | 2 60 | | 1 80 | | | | 3 00 | |
| Pleasant Hill (M) | | | | | | | 50 | | | | | | | | | 50 | |
| Pleasant Hill (L) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 50 | |
| Russellville | | 7 38 | | | | | 12 62 | | | | | | | | 1 50 | | |
| Rocky Creek | | | | | | | 5 00 | | | | | | | | | 40 | |
| Salon | | | | 4 85 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Somerville | | | | | | | 5 00 | | | 2 50 | | | | | | | |
| Steady Grove | | | | | | | | | 1 00 | | | | | | | 50 | |
| Town Creek | | 1 21 | | | | | 13 35 | | | 10 00 | | | | | | 50 | |
| Trinity | | | | | | | 9 35 | | 2 00 | 2 50 | | | | | | 80 | |
| Shoal Creek | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Moulton S. S. | | | | | | | 5 00 | | | 5 00 | | | | | | | |
| Town Creek S. S. | | | | | | | 2 50 | | | 2 50 | | | | | | | |
| Deaville S. S. | | | | | | | 3 50 | | | | | | | | | | |
| I. A. S., Russellville | | | | | | | 5 00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| A. W. Brance | | | | | | | 5 00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| J. T. Wallace | | | | | | | | | | 1 00 | | | | | | | |
| Elise Gibson | | | | | | | | | | 1 00 | | | | | | | |
| W. R. Frazier | | | | | | | | | | 2 50 | | | | | | | |
| Dr. J. M. Kitchens | | | | 7 50 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hartselle S. S. | | | | | | | | | | 2 50 | | | | | | | |
| J. O. A. Pace | | | | | | | 1 00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| E. T. Wear | | | | | | | | | | 2 00 | | | | | | | |
| General Collection | | | | | | | 6 42 | | | | | 5 85 | | | | | |
| Sunday's Collection | | | | | | | 5 09 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Totals | \$17 00 | \$70 07 | \$119 01 | \$ 5 00 | \$77 45 | \$11 06 | \$51 30 | \$52 25 | \$34 86 | \$101 64 | \$ 9 00 | \$34 50 | \$15 54 | \$27 05 | | | |

RECAPITULATION.

| CASH AND VOUCHERS RECEIVED FOR | CASH | VOUCHERS | TOTAL |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| State Missions | \$ 17 50 | \$ 70 97 | \$ 88 47 |
| Home Missions | 19 01 | 5 00 | 24 01 |
| Foreign Missions | 77 45 | 11 06 | 88 51 |
| Associational Missions | 251 80 | 32 28 | 283 58 |
| Ministerial Education | 34 98 | 101 64 | 136 62 |
| Orphans' Home | 9 66 | 24 50 | 34 16 |
| Minutes | 27 98 | | 27 98 |
| Ministers' Institute | | 15 24 | 15 24 |
| | <u>\$437 88</u> | <u>\$260 69</u> | <u>\$698 57</u> |

The Finance Committee report that they have received cash and vouchers as above, and have paid over to the Treasurer—

| | |
|--|----------|
| Cash | \$420 09 |
| Paid Treasurer by Decatur Church | 3 50 |
| Collections on Sabbath, paid Treasurer | 5 09 |
| Collections for Orphans' Home | 5 65 |
| Minute Money from Salem Church, paid Clerk | 40 |
| By error | 3 14 |

\$437 88

H. B. IRWIN,
WM. EAST,
J. C. TIDWELL, } Committee.

NOTE.—Finance Committee made some mistake in putting vouchers in cash column, but I am not able to detect it.—CLERK.

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF MUSCLE SHOALS ASSOCIATION, FOR YEAR 1898.

CHURCHES

| CHURCHES | State Missions—Cash | State Missions—Voucher | Home Missions—Cash | Home Missions—Voucher | Foreign Missions—Cash | For's Missions—Voucher | Associational Missions—Cash | Associational Missions—Voucher | Bible and Colportage—Voucher | Ministerial Education—Cash | Ministerial Education—Voucher | Institute Work—Voucher | Orphan's Home—Cash | Orphan's Home—Voucher | Minutes | Home Expenses—Pastor's Salary | Home Expenses—Repairs and New Buildings | Home Expenses—Poor, Fuel, Sunday School, &c. | Total | Value of Property | |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------|-------------------------------|---|--|------------|-------------------|--------|
| Bethel | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| Bethany | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 6 50 | 400 00 |
| Bethlehem | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 10 75 | 600 00 |
| Belview | | | | | | | | 2 00 | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 50 | 500 00 |
| Blue Spring | | | | | | | | 3 00 | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 50 | 400 00 |
| Cave Spring | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 3 50 | 300 00 |
| Con. New Decatur | 14 57 | | 5 00 | | 5 00 | | 5 45 | | | 120 00 | 9 85 | | | | 2 00 | 388 68 | 37 50 | 130 78 | 568 45 | 6,000 00 | |
| Centre Grove | | | | | | | 3 00 | | | 2 00 | | | | | | 70 | 20 00 | | 5 00 | 200 00 | |
| Cherry Hill | | | | | | | 28 59 | | | 3 00 | | | | | | 20 | 80 00 | 85 | 34 65 | 300 00 | |
| Daaville | 15 48 | | | | | | 27 85 | 3 80 | | 10 00 | 1 02 | | | 5 40 | | 40 00 | 30 00 | 125 18 | 1,200 00 | | |
| Dartington | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Decatur, First | 2 75 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 75 | 160 00 | 75 00 | 22 67 | 966 07 | 3,000 00 | |
| Eden | | | | | 3 00 | | 7 75 | 45 00 | | 2 50 | | | | | | 50 00 | 30 00 | 22 57 | 83 45 | 500 00 | |
| Elba | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 16 75 | 200 00 | |
| Friendship | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 00 | 250 00 | |
| Fulkville | | | | | | | 10 00 | | | 1 00 | | | | | 1 50 | 50 00 | 25 00 | 15 50 | 102 50 | 400 00 | |
| Gum Spring (D) | | | | | | | 4 00 | | | | | | | | | | | | 4 40 | 50 00 | |
| Gum Spring (M) | 2 45 | | | | 3 10 | | | 3 85 | | | | | | | 1 00 | | | | 6 55 | 50 00 | |
| Harmony | | | | | | 25 | | | | 1 10 | 5 00 | | | | | | | | 5 13 | 50 00 | |
| Hopewell | | | | | 3 00 | | 5 00 | | | | | | | | | | | | 10 75 | 600 00 | |
| Hillsboro | 2 65 | | | | | | 10 30 | 3 15 | | 5 00 | 5 00 | | | | 50 | | | | 21 50 | 1,800 00 | |
| Hartsville | 5 00 | | | | | | 9 06 | | | | | | | | | | | | 77 02 | 1,000 00 | |
| Lebanon | | | | | | | 7 00 | 20 00 | | | | | | | | | | | 6 00 | 800 00 | |
| Macedonia (F) | | | | | | | 4 00 | | | | | | | | 1 00 | 55 00 | | | 72 34 | 700 00 | |
| Macedonia (M) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 58 | | | | 4 85 | 250 00 | |
| McClouth | | | | | | | | | | 6 88 | 110 00 | 3 12 | | | 1 00 | | | | 104 13 | 1,000 00 | |
| McClouth Heights | 3 15 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 75 00 | | 2 00 | | |
| Mt. Zion (M) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 250 00 | |
| Mt. Zion (D) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 40 00 | 250 00 | |
| Mt. Nebo (F) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 26 35 | 500 00 | |
| Mt. Nebo (M) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 200 00 | |
| Mt. Hope | 13 75 | 6 35 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 00 | | | | 20 00 | 250 00 | |
| Mt. Pisgah | | | | | | | 12 50 | | | 1 00 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| New Hope | | | | | | | 5 00 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| New Prospect | 1 00 | | 2 00 | | 2 00 | | | 1 45 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| New Friendship | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| New Centre | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| New Decatur, First | 14 94 | 11 01 | | | | 3 85 | | | | 10 00 | 2 19 | 3 04 | 10 10 | 41 | 300 00 | 50 00 | 18 14 | 342 75 | 800 00 | | |
| Okolona | | | | | | | 18 00 | | | | 2 80 | | | | 1 13 | 40 00 | | 2 06 | 38 92 | 500 00 | |
| Pleasant Grove | | | | | | | 6 00 | 1 80 | | 2 00 | | | | | 1 00 | | | 42 00 | 18 98 | | |
| Russellville | 7 38 | | | | | | 12 65 | 5 00 | | 2 40 | 5 00 | | | | 1 50 | 200 00 | | 39 00 | 270 60 | 1,500 00 | |
| Rocky Creek | | | | | | | 8 00 | | | | | | | | 1 50 | | | | 50 00 | 200 00 | |
| Salem | | | | | | | 4 85 | | | 1 25 | | | | | 40 | | | | 8 70 | 300 00 | |
| Somersville | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 78 10 | 500 00 | |
| Shady Grove | | | | | | | 5 00 | | | 1 00 | | | | | | | 50 00 | 1 80 | 60 00 | 100 00 | |
| Shel Creek | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pleasant Hill (M) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pleasant Hill (L) | | | | | | | 4 00 | | | 10 1 90 | | | | | 1 00 | | | | 7 00 | 400 00 | |
| Town Creek | | | | | | | 2 15 | | | | 715 25 | | | | 50 | | | | 1 00 | | |
| Trinity | | | | | | | 9 35 | | | 2 00 | 2 50 | | | | 50 | | | | 14 35 | 800 00 | |
| Total | \$17 50 | \$70 97 | \$19 01 | \$5 00 | \$99 00 | \$11 06 | \$21 29 | \$44 78 | \$1 71 | \$83 52 | \$95 44 | \$16 26 | \$4 01 | \$84 50 | \$27 98 | \$1,248 68 | \$407 50 | \$276 43 | \$2,555 25 | \$8,250 00 | |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Total money given for Missions | \$ 256 50 |
| Total money for Ministerial Education | 128 26 |
| Total Money for Orphan's Home | 28 61 |
| Individuals for Missions | 13 50 |
| Individuals for Ministerial Education | 10 50 |
| Collections for Missions | 11 51 |
| Collections for Orphan's Home | 5 65 |
| Colportage | 1 71 |
| Ministers' Institute Work | 16 26 |
| Total | \$ 575 16 |

For this amount, \$6.00 was given by Bro. J. G. Orr, in memory of his daughter, Miss Gena Orr. She loved the cause of Christ while she lived, and was a faithful worker.

†This church has a parsonage.

*Sunday School.

†Includes \$5.00 from Sunday School.

†Includes \$2.50 from N. T. W.

STATISTICS OF MUSCLE S

| CHURCHES | COUNTY | PASTOR | CLERK | CLERK'S POST OFFICE | Members Last Reported | Baptism |
|--------------------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| Bethel..... | Morgan | J I Stockton | J O Love | Hartsville | 78 | |
| Bethany | Lawrence | J B Blackman | J W Owens | Town Creek | 60 | |
| Bellview (a) | Lawrence | J Gunn | W B Crow | Crow | | |
| Blue Spring | Morgan | J E Weaver | W J Weaver | Florette | 70 | |
| Cave Spring | Morgan | No Pastor | W T Collier | Priestville | 13 | |
| Cent. New Decatur | Morgan | R M Strickler | Jno A Thomason | Decatur | 108 | |
| Centre Grove | Morgan | J D McClanahan | M W Ratliff | Centre Grove | 33 | |
| Cherry Hill | Franklin | J O A Pace | E B Richerson | Waco | 39 | |
| Danville | Morgan | Jos Shackelford | John Hampton | Danville | 68 | |
| Decatur, First | Morgan | T F Hendon | L R Day | Decatur | 31 | |
| Enon | Lawrence | J D McClanahan | J T Wallace | Jemeton | 125 | |
| Etha | Cullman | J A Perkins | M L Mason | Fall Creek | | |
| Friendship | Lawrence | M Briscoe | E W Roden | Barlow | 41 | |
| Falkville | Morgan | W T Cobbs | T L Simpson | Falkville | 66 | |
| Gum Spring | Morgan | J E Roan | E J Parnell | Hartsville | 88 | |
| Gum Spring | Lawrence | J B Blackman | W H Muston | Hatton | 51 | |
| Harmony | Lawrence | L A Wear | John S Howell | Moulton | 60 | |
| Hopewell | Morgan | M Briscoe | F H Orr | Danville | 82 | |
| Hillsboro | Lawrence | A W Briscoe | W R Aycock | Hillsboro | 59 | |
| Hartsville | Morgan | J B Kilpatrick | L P Johnson | Hartsville | 50 | |
| Darlington | Franklin | R L Quinn | J T Jackson | Rockwood | 54 | |
| Lebanon | Morgan | J D McClanahan | H J Thomason | Falkville | 79 | |
| Macedonia | Morgan | J I Stockton | J Washburn | Lane's | 30 | |
| Macedonia | Franklin | R T Wear | F F Elkins | Newburg | 79 | |
| Mission Grove | Lawrence | No pastor | John Yates | Courtland | 13 | |
| Moulton | Lawrence | No pastor | H B Irwin | Moulton | 48 | |
| Moulton Heights | Morgan | J Gunn | W H Gordon | New Decatur | 12 | |
| Mt. Hope | Lawrence | R T Wear | Geo W Jackson | Mt. Hope | 43 | |
| †Mt. Zion | Lawrence | J D Dawson | J H Butler | Edmond | 64 | |
| Mt. Zion | Morgan | | W H H Thompson | Hartsville | 74 | |
| Mt. Nebo | Morgan | W T Cobbs | E B Gibson | Mammy | 77 | |
| Mt. Nebo | Franklin | R T Wear | G W Hargett | Hargett's Mills | 78 | |
| Mt. Pisgah | Morgan | M Briscoe | H A McClellan | Flint | 87 | |
| New Hope | Lawrence | J B Blackman | M H Crow | Courtland | 29 | |
| New Prospect | Lawrence | J J Churchwell | M A Masterson | Landersville | 31 | |
| New Friendship | Morgan | W E Wright | W J Blankenship | Somerville | 66 | |
| New Centre | Morgan | W E Wright | J W Maples | Somerville | 29 | |
| New Decatur, First | Morgan | J B Kilpatrick | F Utter | New Decatur | 30 | |
| Okolona | Lawrence | L A Wear | R L Bond | Hatton | 101 | |
| Pleasant Grove | Lawrence | J J Churchwell | M O Bragg | Moulton | 86 | |
| †Prospect | Morgan | J E Roan | J E Leeman | Somerville | 17 | |
| Russellville | Franklin | J Evans | Peter Clay | Russellville | 87 | |
| Rocky Creek | Morgan | J E Weaver | J O Allison | Lawrence Cove | 68 | |
| Salem | Lawrence | L A Wear | H E Weatherwax | Moulton | 30 | |
| Somerville | Morgan | J E Roan | J E Weaver | Somerville | 58 | |
| Shady Grove | Morgan | J I Stockton | J A Moore | Neal | 58 | |
| Shoal Creek | Morgan | J E Roan | J I Wright | Somerville | 31 | |
| Pleasant Hill | Morgan | J Gunn | G W Russell | Simpson | 83 | |
| Pleasant Hill | Lawrence | R M Atkins | J W Tyler | Mountain Home | 16 | |
| Town Creek | Lawrence | R T Wear | Jno M Jackson | Mt. Hope | 185 | |
| Trinity | Morgan | J I Stockton | B Gillentin | Trinity | 40 | |

Totals.....

REMARKS—[No Report from this Church this year. †This Church granted a letter. (c) New Schools. There are perhaps one or two others that have Schools, that do not report them.

5-1
46
33

2722

SHOALS ASSOCIATION, 1898.

| INCREASE BY | | | | DECREASE BY | | | | SUNDAY SCHOOL | | | | Present Membership | Officers and Teachers | Pupils | SUPERINTENDENT'S NAME AND POST OFFICE | Preaching Sabbath | Reports Prayer Meeting | Reports Revival |
|-------------|--------|---------|-------------|-------------|-----------|----------|-------|---------------|---------|-----|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------|--|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Baptism | Letter | Voucher | Restoration | Letter | Exclusion | Transfer | Death | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | 1 | | | 6 | | | 1 | 76 | 6 | 26 | W H Love, Hartselle | | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| | | | | 6 | | | 1 | 43 | | | | | | | | 1 | | |
| | | | | | | | | 32 | | | | | | | | 2 | | 1 |
| | | | | 1 | | | | 46 | | | | | | | | 2 | | |
| | 1 | | | | | | | 13 | 4 | 41 | B F Clark, Priceville | | | | | | | |
| 10 | 7 | | | | | | | 138 | 10 | 102 | John A Thomason, Decatur | | | | Every S. | 1 | 1 | |
| | | | | | | | | 23 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | 1 | | | | 38 | 4 | 48 | Alva H Powell, Waco | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 54 | 4 | 35 | Jos Shackelford, Danville | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 36 | 6 | 50 | W W Garrett, Decatur | | | | Every S. | 1 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 141 | | | | | | | | 3 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 55 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | 37 | | | | | | | | 4 | | |
| | | | | | | | | 60 | 8 | 88 | D F Green | | | | | 3 | 1 | |
| | | | | | | | | 79 | | | | | | | | 1 | | |
| | | | | | | | | 49 | | | | | | | | 4 | | |
| | | | | | | | | 74 | 5 | 30 | W S Howell, Pitt. | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 88 | 7 | 46 | W O Smith, Hartselle | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 57 | 5 | 30 | W S Stephens, Hillsboro | | | | | 3 | | |
| | | | | | | | | 50 | 7 | 60 | J M Kitchens, Hartselle | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 26 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | 84 | 6 | 46 | S Nunn, Falkville | | | | | 4 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 42 | | | | | | | | 1 | | |
| | | | | | | | | 85 | 4 | 20 | T N Vinson, Mt. Hope | | | | | 4 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 13 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | 44 | 5 | 25 | Jourdan White, Moulton | | | | | 4 | | |
| | | | | | | | | 19 | 4 | 35 | W H Gordon, New Decatur | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 48 | | | | | | | | 3 | | |
| | | | | | | | | 48 | | | | | | | | 4 | | |
| | | | | | | | | 74 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | 72 | 5 | 25 | R B Gibson, Macony | | | | | 4 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 75 | | | | | | | | 1 | | |
| | | | | | | | | 88 | 5 | 35 | John W Gibson, Flint | | | | | 2 | | |
| | | | | | | | | 61 | S. Rpt. | | No Statistics | | | | | | 1 | |
| | | | | | | | | 30 | 4 | 60 | W V Willis, Landersville | | | | | 4 | | |
| | | | | | | | | 53 | S. Rpt. | | No Statistics | | | | | 3 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 30 | S. Rpt. | | No Statistics | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | 72 | 7 | 25 | J C Lance, New Decatur | | | | Every S. | 1 | | |
| | | | | | | | | 124 | | | None reported | | | | | 2 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 86 | 7 | 85 | J P Pearson, Wren | | | | | 3 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 17 | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | 39 | 6 | 30 | N O Greenhill, Russellville | | | | | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 68 | 6 | 60 | J C Allison, Lawrence Cove | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 50 | 5 | 37 | E F Weatherax, Moulton | | | | | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 29 | 5 | 40 | R L Henderson, Somerville | | | | | 3 | | |
| | | | | | | | | 63 | 3 | 36 | J W Livingston, Neal | | | | | 4 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 37 | | | None reported | | | | | 4 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 21 | 2 | 20 | R P Aday, Simpson | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 21 | 2 | 27 | W A Murray, Mountain Home | | | | | 2 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 164 | S. Rpt. | | F M Caruth, Mt. Hope, no statistics | | | | | 2 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | | 50 | 3 | 30 | W R Frasier, Trinity | | | | | 1 | | |
| 203 | 12 | 10 | 9 | 102 | 30 | 58 | 35 | 144 | 1,310 | | | | | | | | | |

w Churches. Some Churches which have Sunday Schools do not send up any Statistics. 32 report Sunday

3.023

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